AMAZING ADVENTURES
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AMAZING ADVENTURES™

FEATURING

THE BEAST™

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

THE COMING OF...THE GRIFFIN!

THE BLUDGEONING BEAST!™

MURDER IN MID-AIR!

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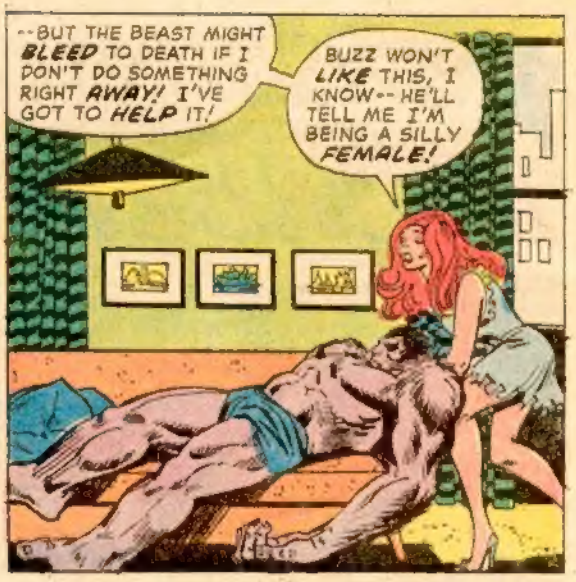
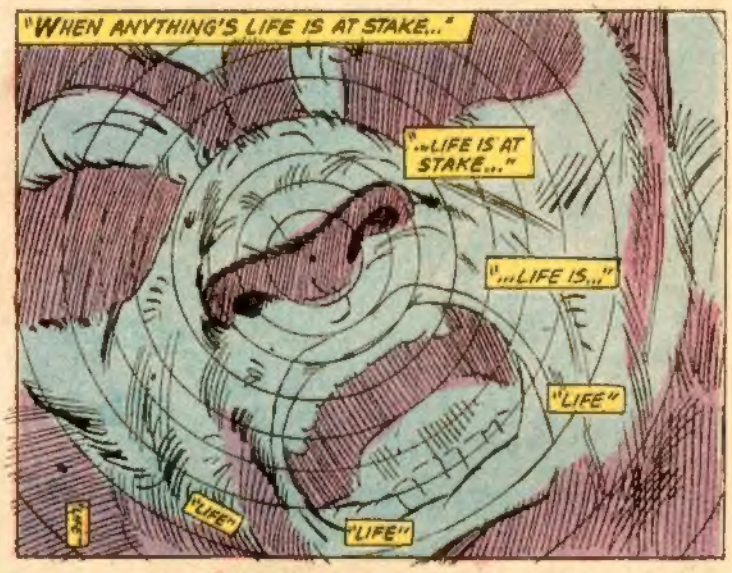
OH GOLLY! IT-- IT'S THAT BEAST-CREATURE BUZZ HAS BEEN TRYING TO CATCH--
--BUT IT'S WOUNDED! IT MUST HAVE STAGGERED HERE JUST BEFORE COLLAPSING!
I'D BETTER TELEPHONE BUZZ AT HIS OFFICE!

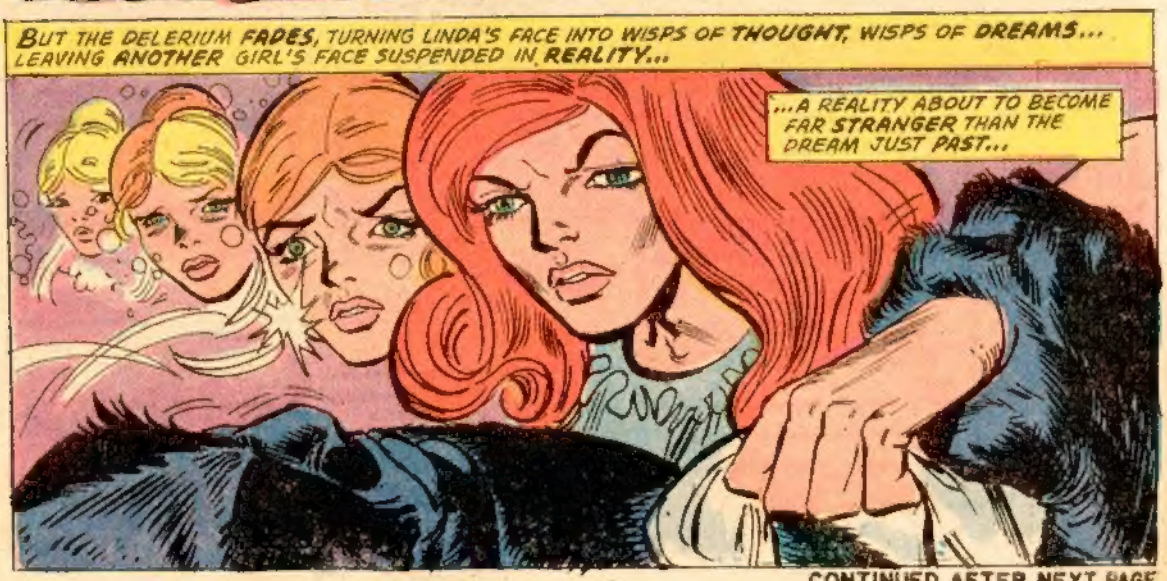

--BUT THE BEAST MIGHT BLEED TO DEATH IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING RIGHT AWAY! I'VE GOT TO HELP IT!
BUZZ WON'T LIKE THIS, I KNOW-- HE'LL TELL ME I'M BEING A SILLY FEMALE!

STILL, WHEN ANYTHING'S LIFE IS AT STAKE--!


"WHEN ANYTHING'S LIFE IS AT STAKE..."
"...LIFE IS AT STAKE..."
"...LIFE IS..."
"LIFE"
"LIFE"
"LIFE"

"...USED TO BE SO SIMPLE," SAYS A SMALL VOICE, DEEP INSIDE THE BEAST'S DELIRIUM. "AS AN X-MAN, A MUTANT, YOU HAD BEEN HATED AND FEARED, BUT YOU COULD HIDE AT THE X-MEN HEADQUARTERS. IT WAS WHEN YOU DECIDED TO CHANGE YOURSELF-- TO MUTATE TO HANK McCOY EVEN FURTHER--

"--THAT YOU BECAME A REAL BEAST, INSTEAD OF SOMEONE WITH BEAST-LIKE ABILITIES--
"--AND YOU BECAME THE DESPISED PREY OF ALL HUMANS YOU ARE NOW!



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As...
MY FUR: IT'S NOT GRAY ANY MORE!
IT'S BLACK!!
IT'S CHANGED WHILE YOU WERE DELIRIOUS. ALL OF A SUDDEN IT JUST TURNED COLOR! WEIRDEST THING I EVER SAW!
BUT DON'T GET EXCITED! YOU'VE GOT TO REST!

REST?!! WHILE I CONTINUE TO MUTATE?!!
NO! I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE! RUN!

YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING ALL YOUR LIFE, HAVEN'T YOU...

...HANK McCOY!

YOU TALKED A LOT IN YOUR DELIRIUM, AND I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU NOW.
SIT DOWN...

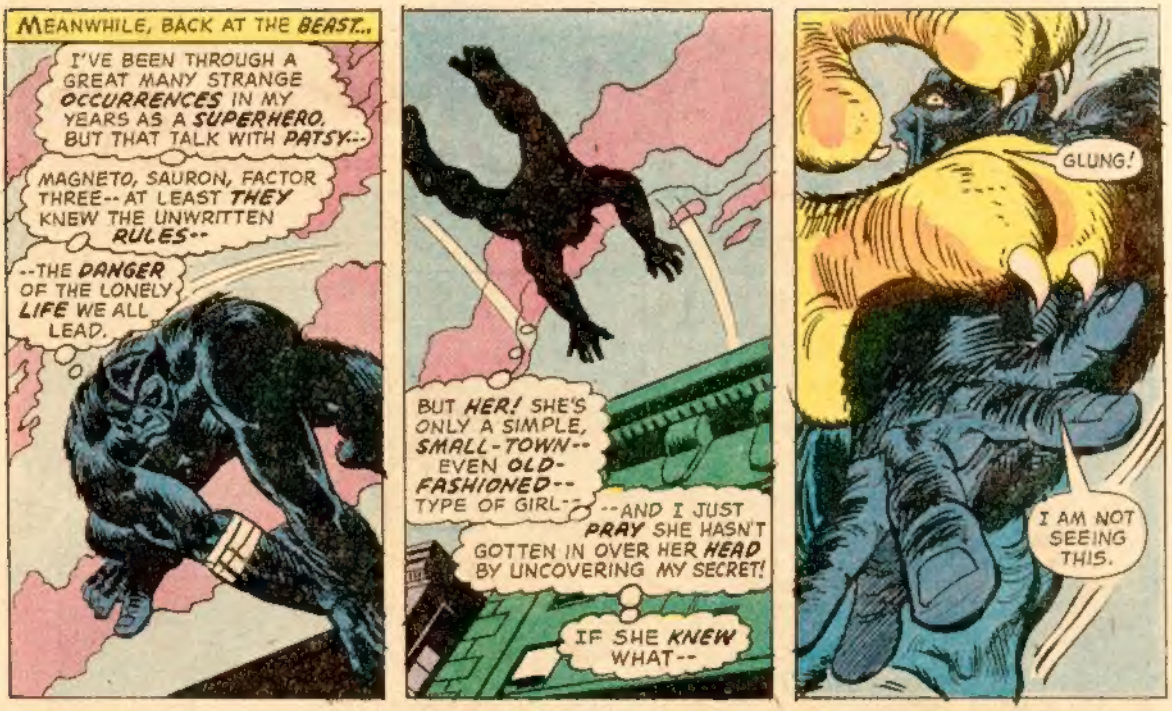
THE MOVING FINGER WRITES, AND HAVING WRIT, MOVES TO WESTCHESTER...
...AND THE SECRET HOME OF THE MYSTERIOUS X-MEN!
LOOK AT THIS! ANOTHER COLUMN FROM JACK ANDERSON ABOUT A BEAST AT THE BRAND CORPORATION WHERE HANK WORKS!

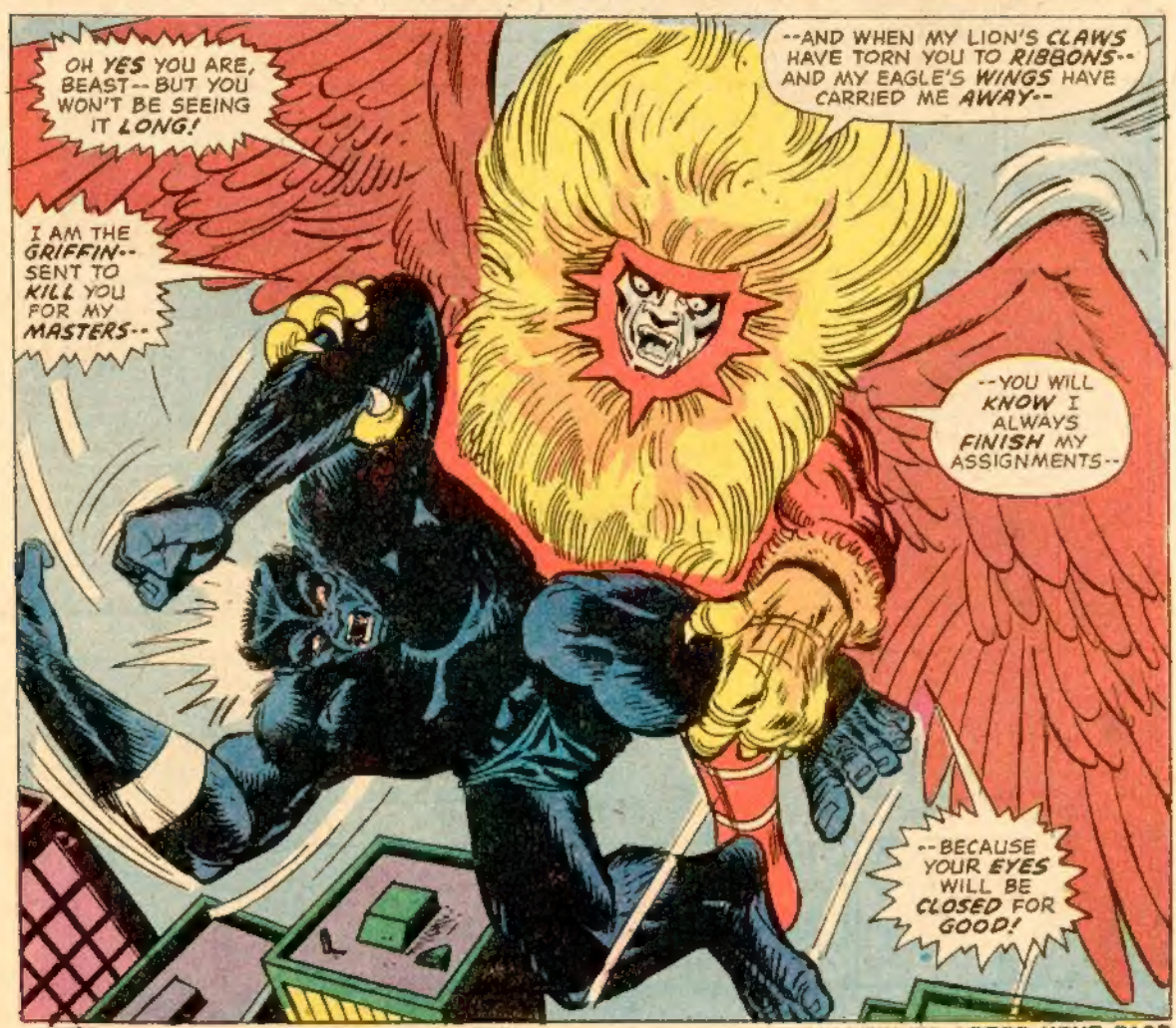
IT MUST BE HIM, PROFESSOR!
AND THE WAY EVERYBODY REFUSES TO TALK ABOUT IT-- INCLUDING HANK WHEN YOU CALL HIM TELEPATHICALLY--
--THERE MUST BE TROUBLE!

IF THERE IS, IT IS HANK'S AFFAIR, WARREN.
HE HAS TOLD ME TO KEEP THE X-MEN AWAY-- AND IT IS HIS RIGHT TO ASK THAT OF US.
HE IS HIS OWN MAN NOW.
BULL!

NONE OF US IS OUR OWN MAN-- NOT WHILE WE'RE MUTANTS AND THE REST OF THE WORLD ISN'T!
THE X-MEN ARE A TEAM!

"SHALL I STOP HIM, PROFESSOR?"
"NO, SCOTT. IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG--
"--OR OF MY OBLIGATION TO HANK VERSUS MY OBLIGATION TO WARREN.
"IT'S A QUESTION OF FEELINGS-- AND THIS IS SOMETHING THE ANGEL FEELS IN HIS HEART HE MUST DO."





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WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
EVERYWHERE I GO THERE ARE SUPERVILLAINS STEPPING ON EACH OTHER TO KILL ME! I THOUGHT UGLY WAS IN FASHION THIS YEAR!
GO AHEAD AND JOKE, BEAST. IT MIGHT EASE YOUR LAST MOMENTS!

YOU MAY HAVE CHANGED COLOR--
--BUT I WON'T DISCRIMINATE: I'LL KILL YOU ANYWAY!
THAT ONE NEARLY GOT ME! HE'S FAST AND HE'S STRONG!
GOT TO HOLD ON-- AND DODGE THOSE CLAWS AT THE SAME TIME!

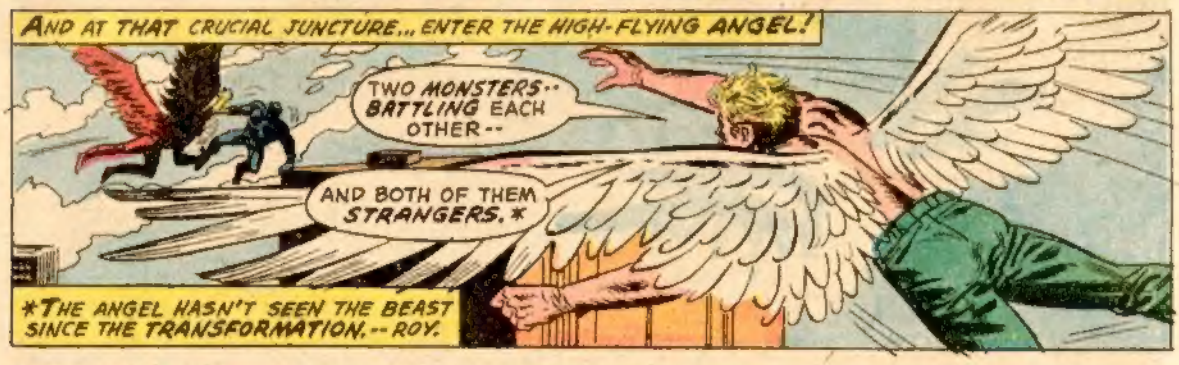
DON'T MIND ME, BUT I NEVER PLAY HARD-TO-GET ON FIRST DATES, GRIFFIN!
--OR MAY I CALL YOU MERV?
I HAVEN'T GOT A NAME-- NOT SINCE THE MASTERS CHANGED ME--

--AND I DON'T WANT TO BE REMINDED!
SOUNDS LIKE THIS BOY'S GOT PROBLEMS.
--BUT THEN AGAIN, I SHOULD TALK!
HAVE TO FLIP OVER LIKE A CAT-- TRY TO LAND SOLIDLY---

NO NEED FOR GYMNASTICS, BEAST! I WON'T LET GRAVITY DO MY WORK FOR ME!
MISTER, I'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT LATELY--SO I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST YOU--

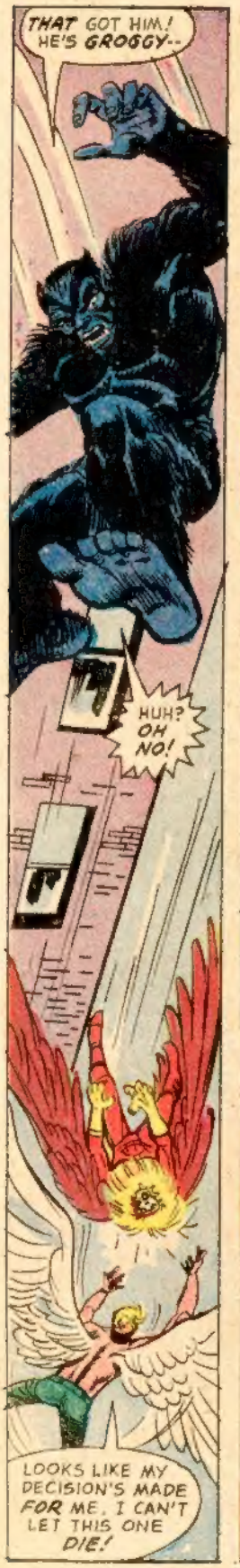
--BUT I'VE REALLY HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH PEOPLE TRYING TO DO ME IN!
THUD

NOW LET'S SEE YOUR REAL FACE--
WHAT--? IT DOESN'T COME OFF!


AND AT THAT CRUCIAL JUNCTURE... ENTER THE HIGH-FLYING ANGEL!
TWO MONSTERS-- BATTLING EACH OTHER--
AND BOTH OF THEM STRANGERS.*
*THE ANGEL HASN'T SEEN THE BEAST SINCE THE TRANSFORMATION.--ROY.

WARREN--?
CAN'T GET INVOLVED UNTIL I FIGURE OUT WHICH ONE'S THE BAD GUY!
I'D FEEL PRETTY STUPID IF I HELPED A DANGEROUS MENACE GET AWAY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY BOTH LOOK NASTY CUSTOMERS. WHAT IF NEITHER OF THEM'S THE GOOD GUY?
I WISH HANK WERE HERE TO GIVE ME A HAND.
WHY DOESN'T WARREN HELP ME?
HERE, PASTY-PUSS-- TRY A DOUBLE-LEG SMASH!



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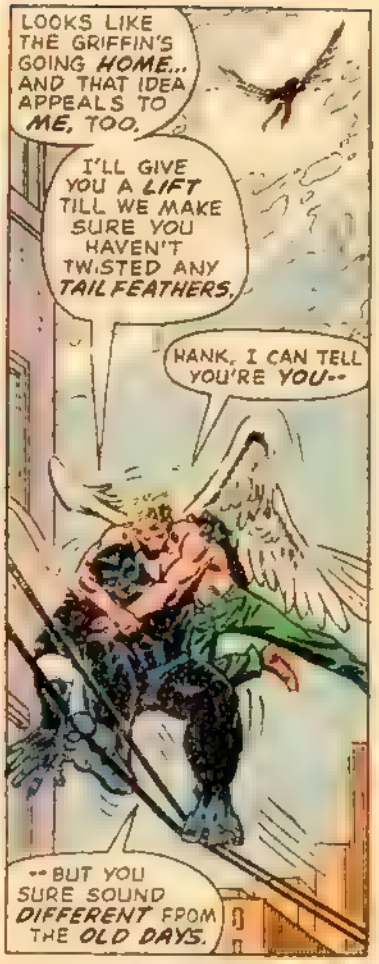
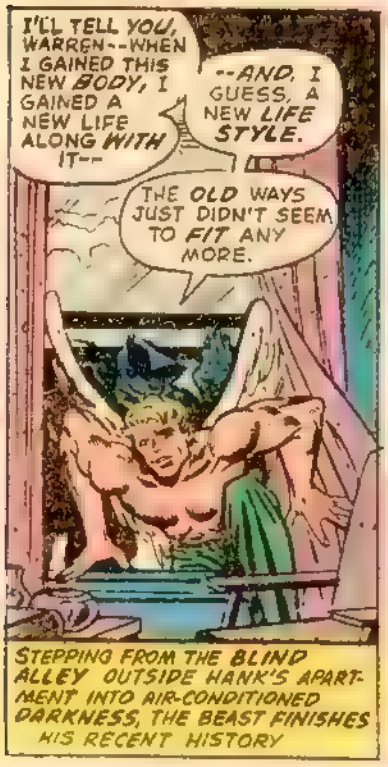
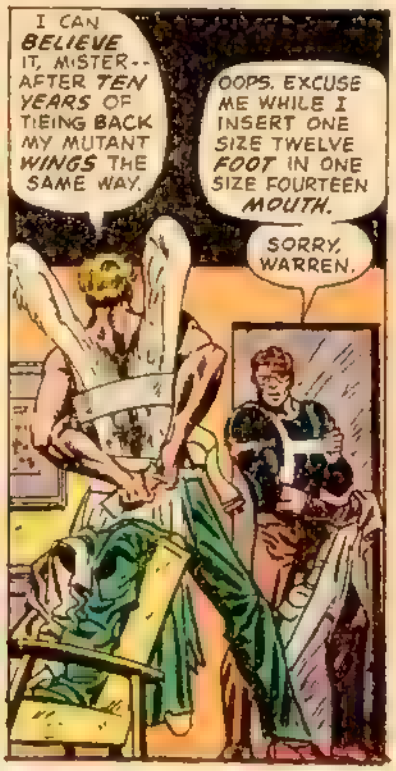
FLITTERING HIGH ABOVE THE RESOUNDING CRASH IS THE GRIFFIN--TRYING TO COMPREHEND THIS TURN OF EVENTS. WHAT BOND LINKS THESE TWO?
FINDING NO ANSWER IN HIS LIMITED MIND, HE FALLS BACK ON A STRATEGIC RETREAT FOR NOW
WARREN--WARREN, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, I THINK--
HUH? WHO ARE YOU?

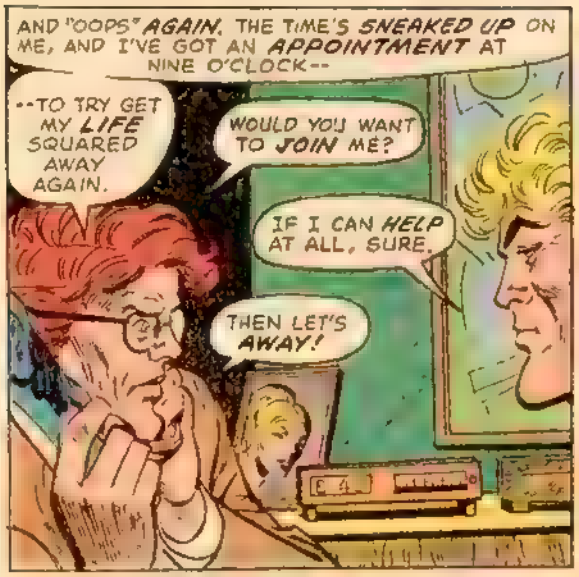
HEY, NOW, HAVE I CHANGED THAT MUCH?
..HANK?
HI, BUDDY

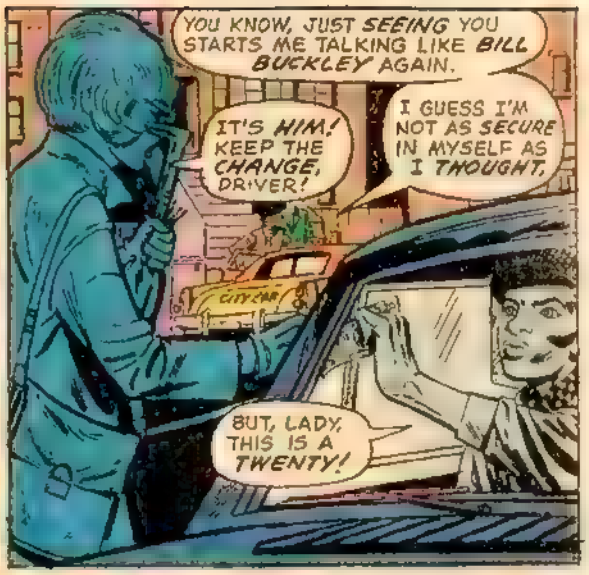

LOOKS LIKE THE GRIFFIN'S GOING HOME... AND THAT IDEA APPEALS TO ME, TOO.
I'LL GIVE YOU A LIFT TILL WE MAKE SURE YOU HAVEN'T TWISTED ANY TAIL FEATHERS.
HANK, I CAN TELL YOU'RE YOU--
--BUT YOU SURE SOUND DIFFERENT FROM THE OLD DAYS.

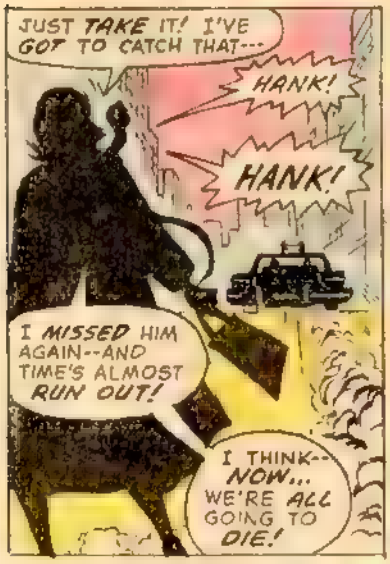

I'LL TELL YOU, WARREN--WHEN I GAINED THIS NEW BODY, I GAINED A NEW LIFE ALONG WITH IT--
--AND, I GUESS, A NEW LIFE STYLE.
THE OLD WAYS JUST DIDN'T SEEM TO FIT ANY MORE.
STEPPING FROM THE BLIND ALLEY OUTSIDE HANK'S APARTMENT INTO AIR-CONDITIONED DARKNESS, THE BEAST FINISHES HIS RECENT HISTORY

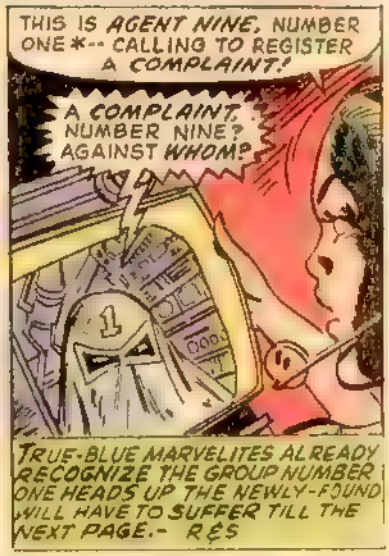
--SO NOW, TO APPEAR HUMAN, I HAVE TO WEAR A RUBBEROID MASK AND GLOVES--
--ALONG WITH THESE THONGS TO KEEP ME UPRIGHT.
THIS IS THE PART I HATE MOST.

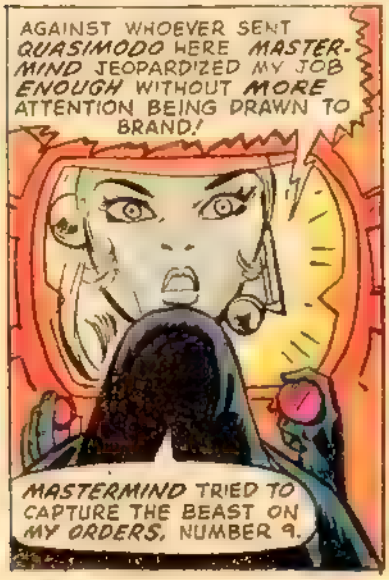

I CAN BELIEVE IT, MISTER--AFTER TEN YEARS OF TIEING BACK MY MUTANT WINGS THE SAME WAY.
OOPS. EXCUSE ME WHILE I INSERT ONE SIZE TWELVE FOOT IN ONE SIZE FOURTEEN MOUTH.
SORRY, WARREN.

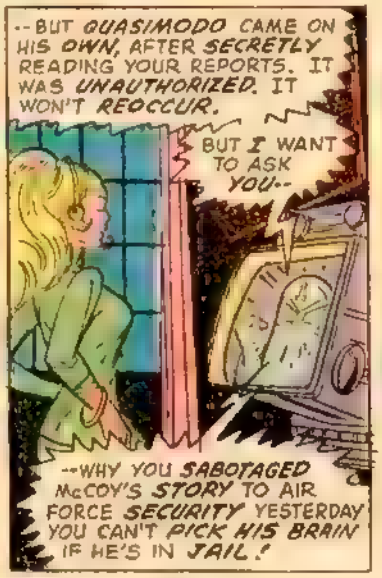












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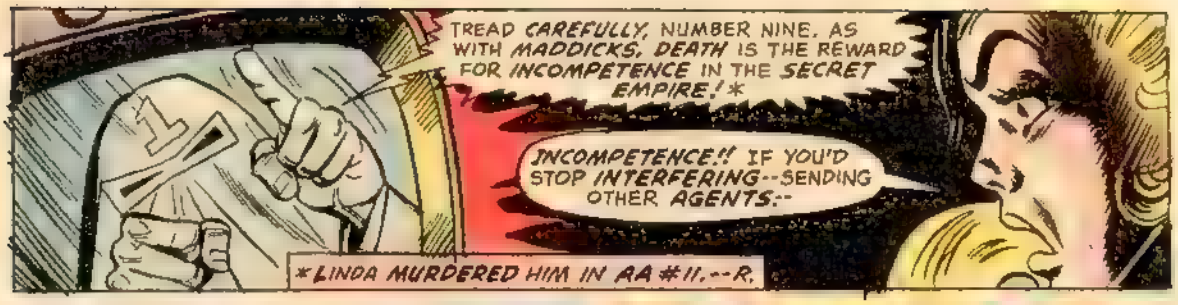
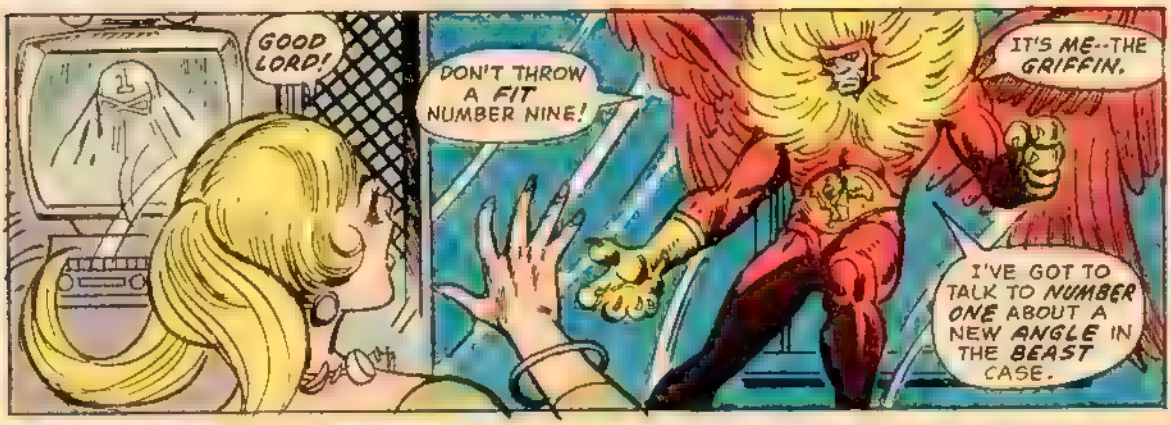
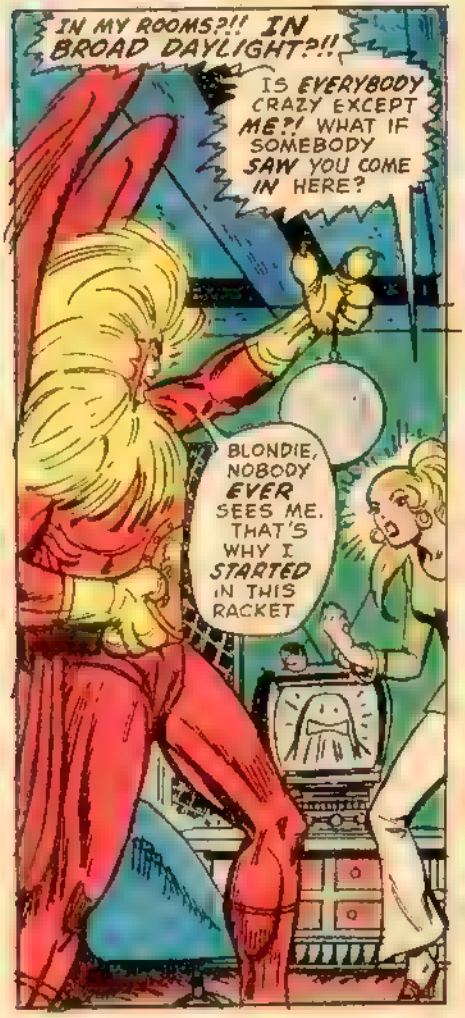
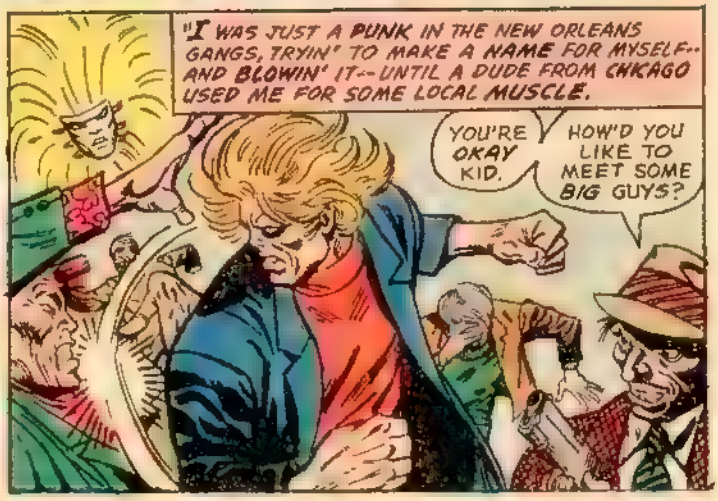
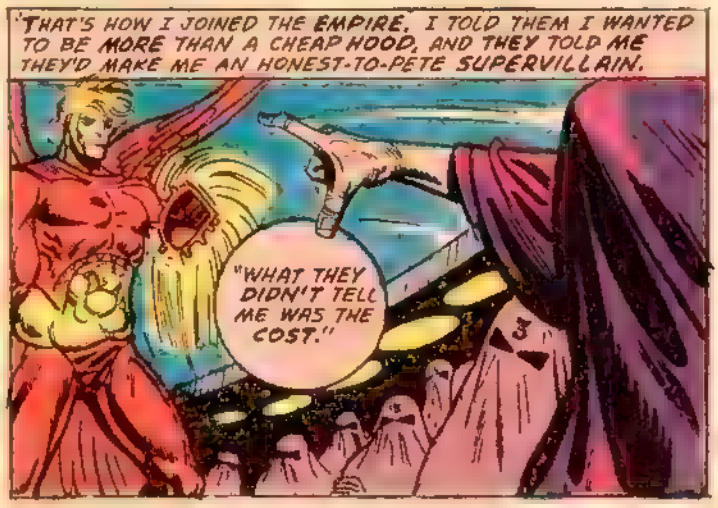
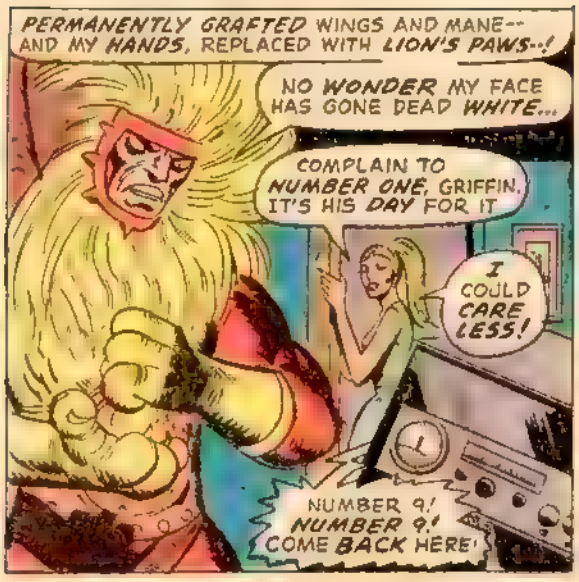

TREAD CAREFULLY, NUMBER NINE. AS WITH MADDICKS, DEATH IS THE REWARD FOR INCOMPETENCE IN THE SECRET EMPIRE!*
INCOMPETENCE!! IF YOU'D STOP INTERFERING--SENDING OTHER AGENTS:--
*LINDA MURDERED HIM IN AA #11.--R.

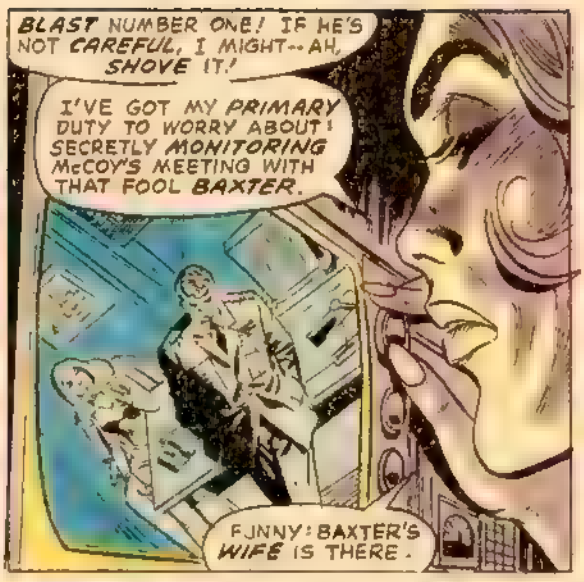

GOOD LORD!
DON'T THROW A FIT NUMBER NINE!
IT'S ME--THE GRIFFIN.
I'VE GOT TO TALK TO NUMBER ONE ABOUT A NEW ANGLE IN THE BEAST CASE.

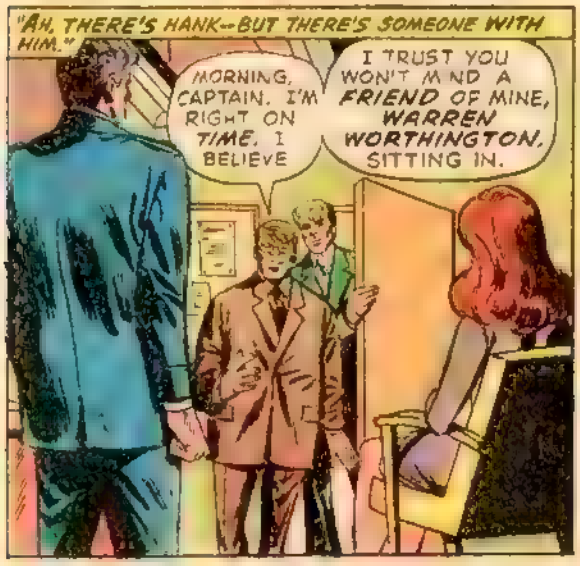

IN MY ROOMS?!! IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?!!
IS EVERYBODY CRAZY EXCEPT ME?! WHAT IF SOMEBODY SAW YOU COME IN HERE?
BLONDIE, NOBODY EVER SEES ME. THAT'S WHY I STARTED IN THIS RACKET

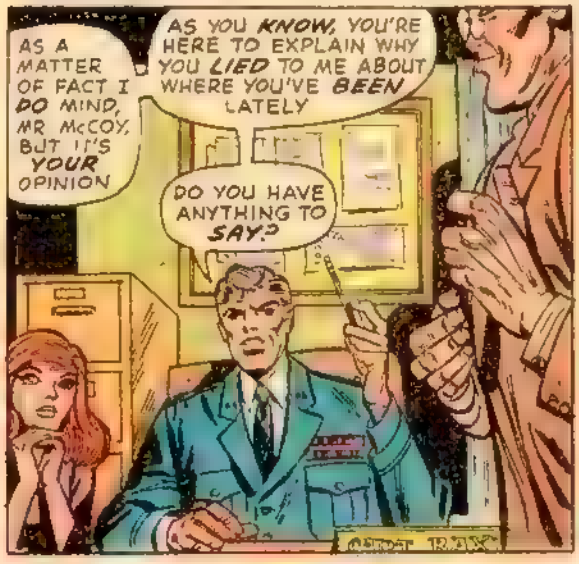

"I WAS JUST A PUNK IN THE NEW ORLEANS GANGS, TRYIN' TO MAKE A NAME FOR MYSELF--AND BLOWIN' IT--UNTIL A DUDE FROM CHICAGO USED ME FOR SOME LOCAL MUSCLE.
YOU'RE OKAY KID.
HOW'D YOU LIKE TO MEET SOME BIG GUYS?


"THAT'S HOW I JOINED THE EMPIRE. I TOLD THEM I WANTED TO BE MORE THAN A CHEAP HOOD, AND THEY TOLD ME THEY'D MAKE ME AN HONEST-TO-PETE SUPERVILLAIN.
"WHAT THEY DIDN'T TELL ME WAS THE COST."


PERMANENTLY GRAFTED WINGS AND MANE-- AND MY HANDS, REPLACED WITH LION'S PAWS--!
NO WONDER MY FACE HAS GONE DEAD WHITE...
COMPLAIN TO NUMBER ONE, GRIFFIN. IT'S HIS DAY FOR IT
I COULD CARE LESS!
NUMBER 9! NUMBER 9! COME BACK HERE!

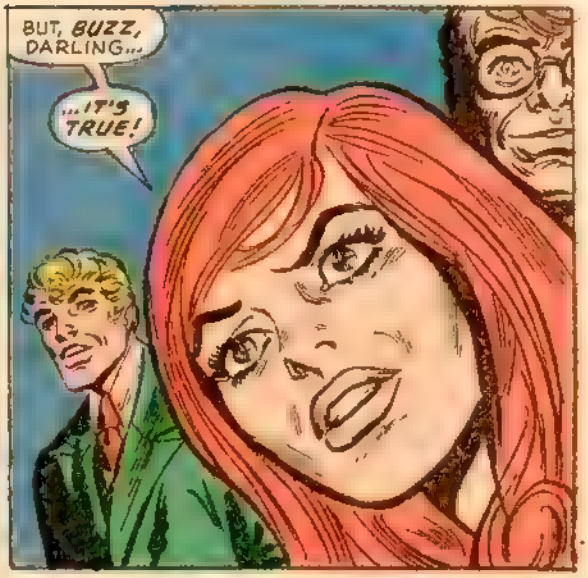

BLAST NUMBER ONE! IF HE'S NOT CAREFUL, I MIGHT-- AH, SHOVE IT!
I'VE GOT MY PRIMARY DUTY TO WORRY ABOUT! SECRETLY MONITORING McCOY'S MEETING WITH THAT FOOL BAXTER.
FUNNY! BAXTER'S WIFE IS THERE.

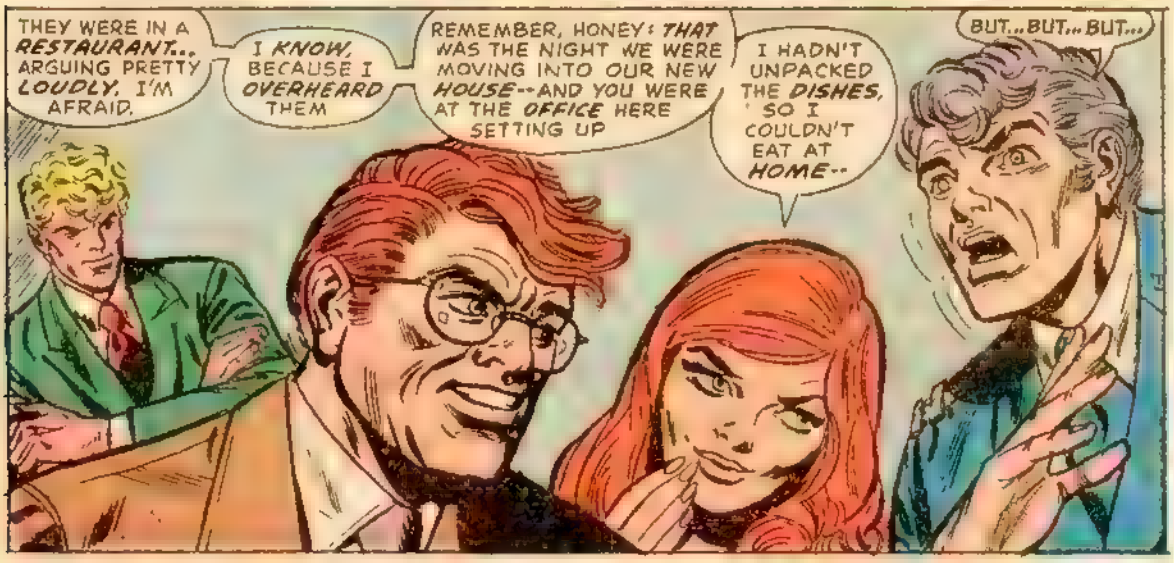

"AH, THERE'S HANK--BUT THERE'S SOMEONE WITH HIM."
MORNING, CAPTAIN. I'M RIGHT ON TIME, I BELIEVE
I TRUST YOU WON'T MIND A FRIEND OF MINE, WARREN WORTHINGTON, SITTING IN.


AS YOU KNOW, YOU'RE HERE TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU LIED TO ME ABOUT WHERE YOU'VE BEEN LATELY
AS A MATTER OF FACT I DO MIND, MR McCOY, BUT IT'S YOUR OPINION
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?

OF COURSE, CAPTAIN.
WARREN CAME DOWN FROM OUR OLD PREP SCHOOL TO VISIT ME--
--AND WE WERE HAVING AN ALUMNI GET-TOGETHER OF SORTS!
I JUST SKIPPED WORK FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS.

OH YEAH, RIGHT! I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT!
IF IT'S TRUE, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THEN?
NOT A CHANCE, MISTER-- NOT AFTER LAST NIGHT!





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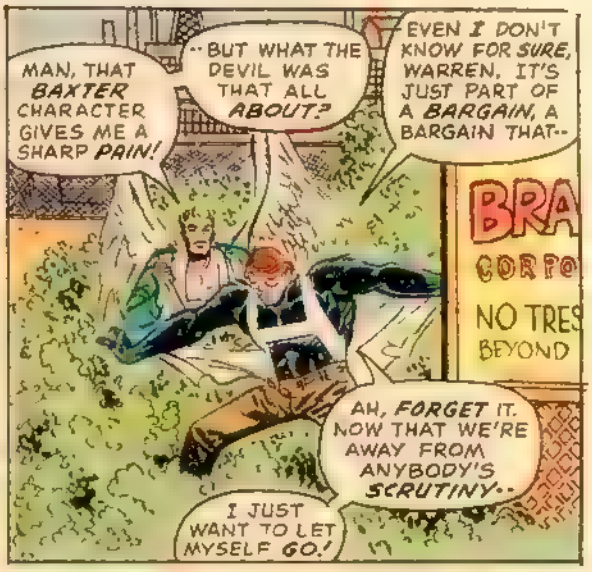
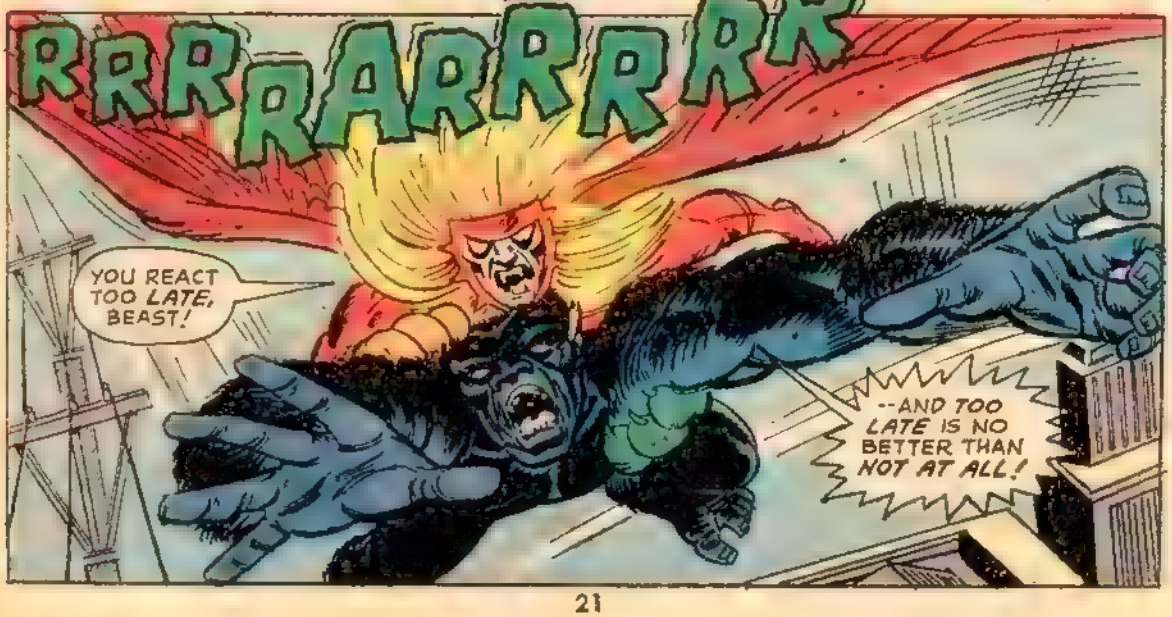
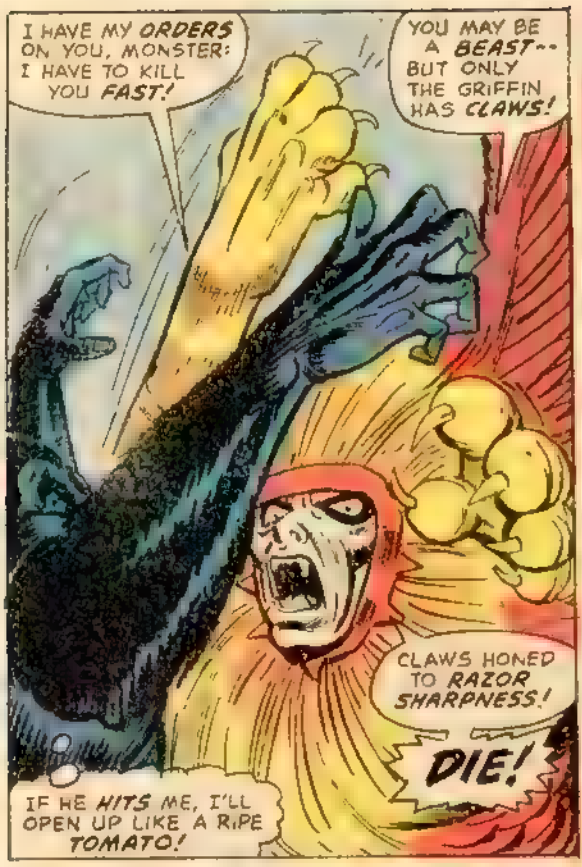
WELL, WE'LL BE GOING NOW, CAPTAIN, IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS.
OKAY, McCOY, I CAN'T STOP YOU.
BUT THERE'S STILL SOMETHING GOING ON HERE--
--AND I'LL HAVE MY EYE ON YOU.
FAIR ENOUGH, CAPTAIN.


MAN, THAT BAXTER CHARACTER GIVES ME A SHARP PAIN!
--BUT WHAT THE DEVIL WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
EVEN I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, WARREN. IT'S JUST PART OF A BARGAIN, A BARGAIN THAT--
AH, FORGET IT. NOW THAT WE'RE AWAY FROM ANYBODY'S SCRUTINY--
I JUST WANT TO LET MYSELF GO!

LET'S LEAVE INTRIGUES BEHIND FOR A WHILE, X-MAN. I KNOW A PATH THROUGH THE WOODS WE CAN TAKE SO WE WON'T BE SEEN.
YOU TAKE THE HIGH ROAD AND I'LL TAKE--

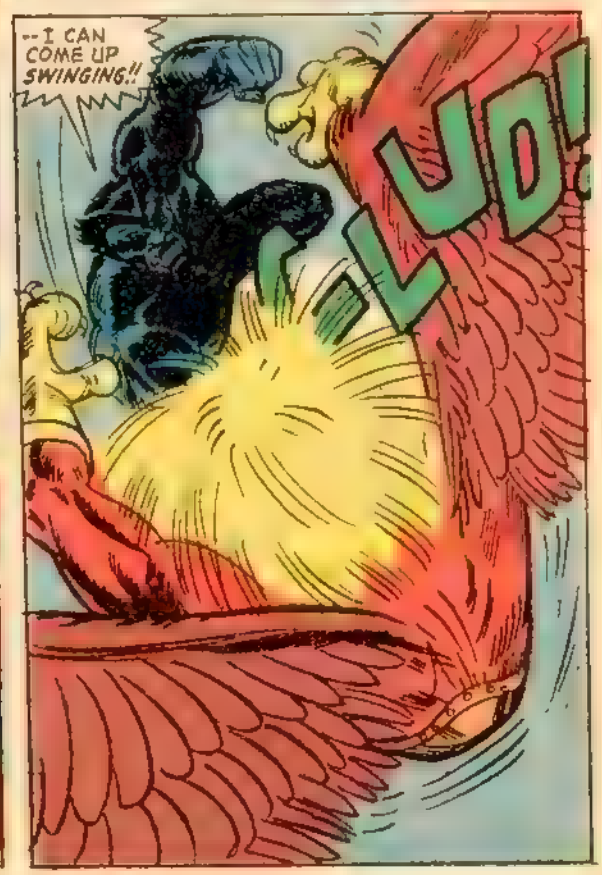
WARREN? SINCE WHEN DID YOUR SHADOW INCLUDE PAWS--?

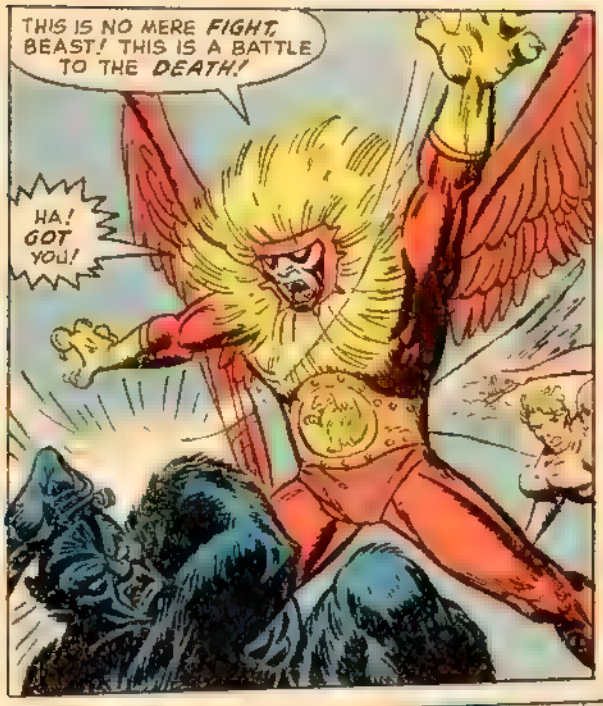

RRRRARRRRR
YOU REACT TOO LATE, BEAST!
--AND TOO LATE IS NO BETTER THAN NOT AT ALL!

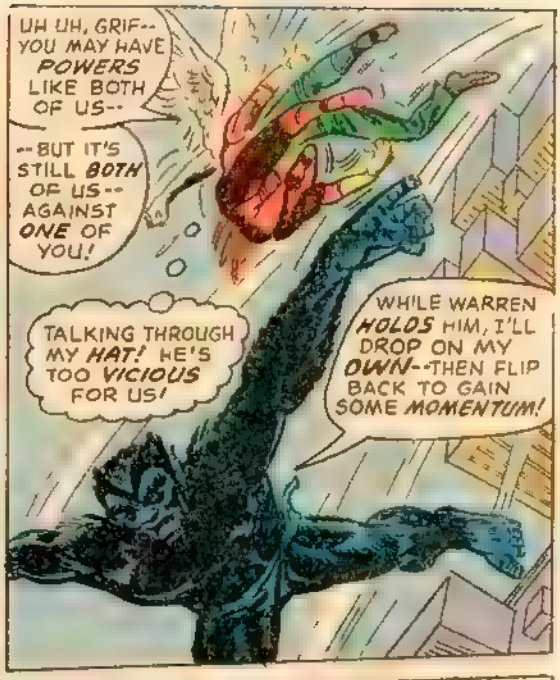

I HAVE MY ORDERS ON YOU, MONSTER: I HAVE TO KILL YOU FAST!
YOU MAY BE A BEAST-- BUT ONLY THE GRIFFIN HAS CLAWS!
CLAWS HONED TO RAZOR SHARPNESS!
DIE!
IF HE HITS ME, I'LL OPEN UP LIKE A RIPE TOMATO!

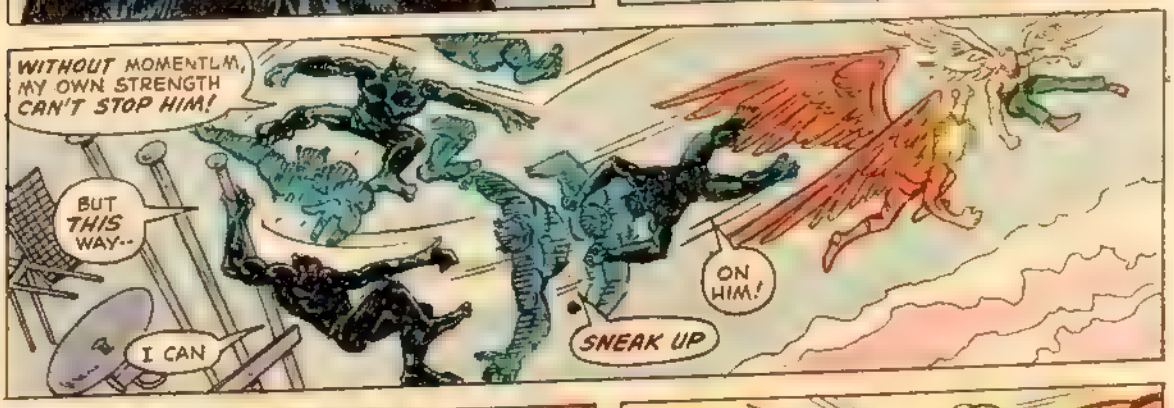
NOT A CHANCE, GRIF! NOT WHEN THE ANGEL'S GOT HIS WIND BACK--
--AND KNOWS WHO TO PUNCH THIS TIME!
THIS CHANGES NOTHING, MUTANT! I NOW HAVE THE SAME ORDERS FOR YOU!
SOK!
OH TREMENDOUS! HE'S DROPPED ME--
--AND I'M THE ONE KID ON THE BLOCK WITH NO WINGS!

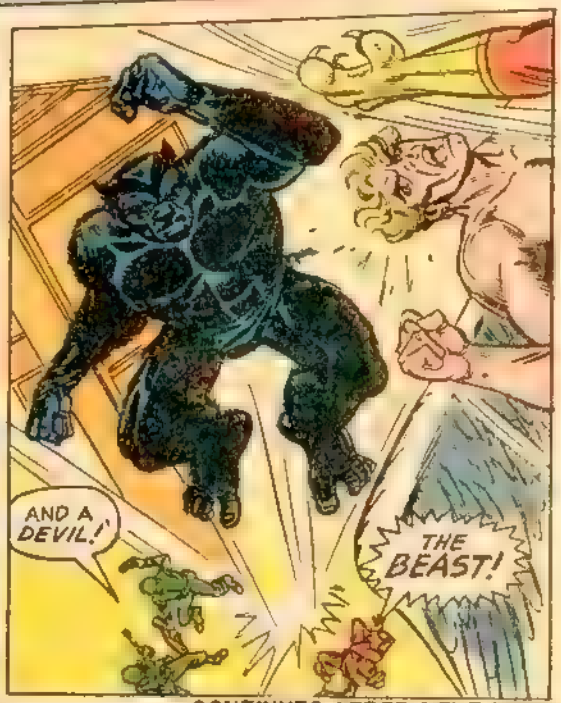
THEN AGAIN, WHO SAYS A BEAST NEEDS ANYTHING BUT HIMSELF?
IF I CAN SNAG ONE OF THOSE POWER LINES--
--AND CATAPULT MYSELF TO THE PIPE--
--AND SPIN AROUND ON IT--


--I CAN COME UP SWINGING!!
LUD!









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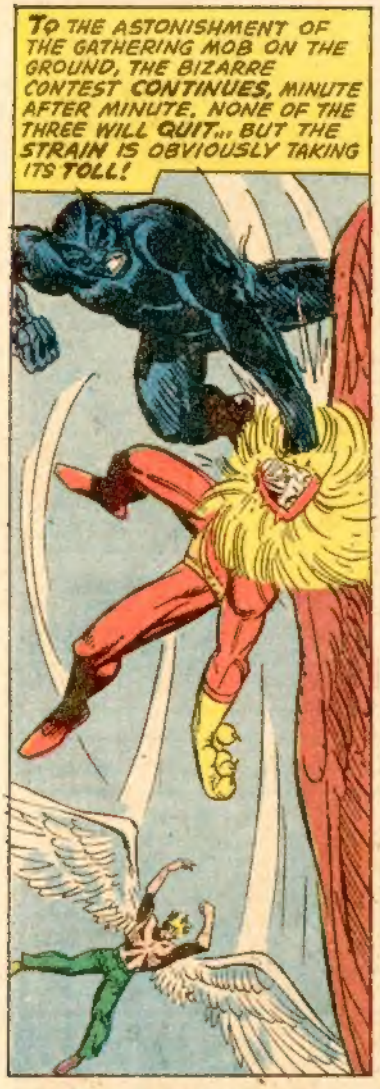
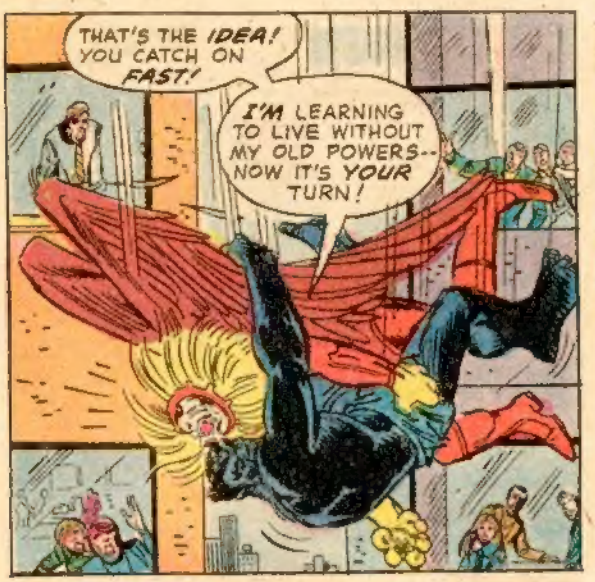

TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF THE GATHERING MOB ON THE GROUND, THE BIZARRE CONTEST CONTINUES, MINUTE AFTER MINUTE. NONE OF THE THREE WILL QUIT... BUT THE STRAIN IS OBVIOUSLY TAKING ITS TOLL!

THIS... IS WEARING ME DOWN.
HAVEN'T... RECOVERED FULLY FROM MY WOUND...
...AND HE KEEPS... SLASHING ME... OVER AND OVER...

RUN OUT OF FIGHT, MONSTER? IT TOOK LONGER THAN I EXPECTED!
BUT ALL THINGS MUST END, EVEN YOUR OPPOSITION!
NO ONE HAS EVER ESCAPED MY GRIP WHEN I'VE BEEN SET--

--AND YOU'RE NO EXCEPTION!
NOW, ONE QUICK BITE FROM MY FANGS--

WRONG, GRIFFIN-- BECAUSE I'M NOT "NO ONE"--
I'M THE BEAST-- AND I'VE GOT EXCEPTIONALLY LONG ARMS, AS YOU MAY BE NOTICING!
MY WINGS!
I CAN'T FLY IF YOU HOLD MY WINGS!


THAT'S THE IDEA! YOU CATCH ON FAST!
I'M LEARNING TO LIVE WITHOUT MY OLD POWERS-- NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

THUDD!

ANGEL! I THOUGHT YOU WERE HURT!
I AM! HE CAUGHT ME A SOLID ONE--
BUT THAT'S NEVER STOPPED YOU AND ME BEFORE!

NOW I THINK WE'D BETTER TAKE THAT LONG-DELAYED TRIP THROUGH THE WOODS!
THE GUARDS AREN'T GOING TO BE ANY FRIENDLIER TO US THAN TO HIM!
I'M WITH YOU, BUDDY!

LATER, WHEN THE TUMULT HAS DIED, AND THE TWO OLD FRIENDS ARE REUNITED QUIETLY FOR THE FIRST TIME...
WARREN, HAS WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU MADE ANY SENSE?
YEP, A LOT, AS A MATTER OF FACT.
I'LL RELAY IT TO THE OTHERS.
THEY'LL BE AS GLAD AS I AM TO KNOW FOR SURE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU!

AND IF YOU WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE, LIKE GRETA GARBO... YOU'VE GOT IT.
BUT IF YOU EVER NEED ANY HELP...
THANKS... MY FINE, FEATHERED FRIEND.

NEXT ISSUE:

REMEMBER TWO YEARS AGO WHEN THE MIGHTY AVENGERS WENT TO THE HAPPY, HAUNTED HALLOWEEN PARADE IN RUTLAND, VERMONT? AND LAST YEAR, WHEN THE DYNAMIC DEFENDERS MADE THE SCENE? WELL, GUESS WHO'S THE STAR OF THE SHOW THIS TIME AROUND! (THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD GUESS, TRUE BELIEVER!)

DON'T DARE MISS:

"THE JUGGERNAUT WILL GET YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT!"

AMAZING MAILS

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 575 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

AMAZING ADVENTURES #13 introduced several new characters into the Beast's life, one of whom was specifically designated as a "mystery girl," and two more who were not designated, but were actually more mysterious. The mail response from sharp-eyed readers with long (and probably bizarre) memories was overwhelming—so here's the cleverest of the reactions to the undesignated pair....

Dear Stan and Company,

The new female supporting star introduced in AMAZING ADVENTURES #13 as Mrs. Buzz Baxter is really... Patsy Walker!! Right, I said *Patsy Walker*, the "Girl Who Could Be You" star of the magazine of the same name, star of PATSY WALKER'S FASHION PARADE, co-star of PATSY AND HEDY, GALS ON THE GO-GO! Right?

So send me a no-prize, guys, with a reporter's pen and pad on it, 'cause I've got your number.

Hedy Wolfe, 13 Nissoria Street
Petawawa, C.F.B., Ontario

Hedy Wolfe, huh...?

Okay, here's the lowdown: back when Stainless Steve first came to work at Marvel, Galloping Gerry was beginning to formulate his plans for bringing the lady Sif (of THOR fame, natch) to Earth, and giving her a secret identity much like Don Blake's. Steve, in a moment of insanity, suggested making her the incarnation of Patsy Walker. Somehow Gerry couldn't see any merit in that idea, but Steve rather favored the thought, and held onto it.

Later, when planning out the Beast's future, he saw a need for colorful supporting characters, and specifically a military man to harass Hank McCoy. And wasn't Buzz Baxter, Patsy's fiance as of 1964, in the Air Force...?

Thus another dazzling decision was reached. But when he did introduce Buzz and Pat, Steve figured he'd keep quiet about it, and see if any of the readers picked up on it.

They did, and with a vengeance, as noted above. Also absolutely everyone who wrote dug the idea, and most mentioned how much they liked the picture of what has happened to the union of a career military man and "America's Sweetheart" after a few years.

Who says the Bullpen is all there?

Dear Stan, Steve, Tom, and Frank,

The new Beast didn't turn me on at first. I liked Hank the way he was; I mean, seeing him as a hairy monster just doesn't excite me. Also the artwork wasn't that good. Now don't get me wrong—I like Tom Sutton. I love his work in *Creepy*, *Eerie* and *Vampirella*, but every time I see his work for you it doesn't look the same because of the inkers.

When AA #13 came along everything changed. The artwork was great. Please keep Frank Giacoia as the inker. Also, the story was better—glad to see Steve working for Marvel. I still miss the old Hank, but the new one is growing on me. The girl with the glasses on page 9 just has to be Vera, who Hank first met in X-MEN #19 and who has been his girlfriend for a long time! I was wondering what had happened to her. If I'm right, do I get a no-prize? Will we see more of the other X-Men? I hope so; they were my favorite group.

Donald Naso, 1505 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10029

Vera, huh? That seems to be the consensus from the mail on the designated "mystery girl." Well, Hank found out this issue, and you'll find out next time. Maybe everybody'll get a no-prize out of this.

Moving on to other matters, the X-Men were Steve's favorite group, too (though his current preferences run toward the Avengers and the Defenders for some reason)—so here we have the Angel and the start of a new relationship between Hank and his old teammates.

And, though we yield to no one in our admiration for Tom Sutton's bombastic artwork, our next ish will feature a new Marvel penciller for a change of pace—not to mention the farthest-out Rutland-Halloween-Parade story ever told. 'Nuff said, Donny?

Dear Stan, Steve, and Tom,

Beastly of you, that's what it was, for a mag that has my letter in it not to have Mike Ploog inking. AMAZING ADVENTURES #12 looked much better than #13 because of Ploog's inking. That's not to say that art in #13 was bad. Quite the contrary, and like I said before and will no doubt say again, Tom Sutton can do no wrong artwise. What say I after three issues? The Beast is X-citing and I'm X-static about him keeping his own strip. This mag just has to sell! The Beast has to become a permanent Marvel fixture. I'm urging each and every fan to buy two issues of this mag to insure its success and to keep the powers-that-be from cancelling it. Save one for a Christmas or birthday present. After all, it's the thought that counts.

And that script. Hmmmmmm. Swingin' Steve really can write 'em! That ending. Powerful. Gripping. Mind-shattering. (Just a little humor there)

That mystery girl. Can it be possible that—? Naw... it couldn't. Mebbe she is. Not that spectacled old librarian Hank used to go out with called Enoch—I mean Vera? Naw, it couldn't be!! On the other hand....

A very enjoyable issue, BEAST #13; one can only hope there will be many more.

RFO, QNS, KOF David McDonnell
1207 Colony Court, #327
Lebanon, Pa. 17042

Gee, was Vera a librarian...?

Dear Bullpen:

Issue #13 of AMAZING ADVENTURES was fantastic. I notice more and more characters from the late X-MEN mag popping up where least suspected. Maybe you'll bring the X-Men back....So much for speculation—back to A.A. The last two pages were the best portrayal of the total collapse of a human being I have ever read. Keep up the good work.

David M. Veglia (RFO, TTB, KOF)
50 Stony Road West, Edison, N.J. 08817

We would, true believer—but the entire Bullpen just decided to try to outstrip that record you awarded to AA #13, and they all just collapsed. Better luck next time.

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (Real Frantic One)—A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.

T.T.B. (Titanic True Believer) — A divinely-inspired 'No-Prize' winner.

Q.N.S. (Quite 'Nuff Sayer) — A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) —Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.

F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.